



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, July 1, 2020**

Meeting held electronically

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Pete Palmer; Vice-Chair Denise Pulk; Commissioners Joel Stempil and Steve Ziomek

**ABSENT:** Commissioners Marie Monroe and Mike Ragole

**STAFF:** Kelly Corsette, Communications/Public Affairs Director

**1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call**

Chair Palmer called the meeting to order at 11: 37 a.m.

Kelly Corsette, Communications/Public Affairs Director, announced that Don Ford has submitted his resignation from the Commission.

**2. Discussion and possible action to approve March 4, 2020 Veterans Advisory Commission meeting minutes**

COMMISSIONER STEMPIL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 4, 2020 VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR PULK SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**3. Communication plan to support Veterans Advisory Commission work plan**

Mr. Corsette reviewed the Scottsdale Veterans Advisory Commission 2020 Outreach and Communications Plan. The plan is designed to support the VAC's work plan, focusing on increasing awareness services and resources available to Scottsdale veterans.

Information tools that are available to further the plan include:

- Scottsdale City website
- News releases and op ed articles
- Event outreach
- Studio television programming
- Social media posts

Mr. Corsette reviewed the estimated timeline for each step in the plan, beginning September 1, 2020. He said that with the exception of event outreach, the plan should be able to be implemented while continuing to maintain COVID-19 social distancing recommendations.

In response to a comment by Commissioner Ziomek, Mr. Corsette explained that the City website utilizes a search technology. Citizens are able to enter the word “veterans” and be connected with available veterans’ information. Featured items and articles are managed on the website’s home page. At the appropriate times, events such as Veterans’ Day could be highlighted on the home page.

Chair Palmer suggested that with the assumption that social distancing concerns will still be in effect in November, consideration be given to planning virtual events in recognition of 2020 Veterans’ Day. Mr. Corsette said that he will start looking at options and asked that Commissioners email him with any ideas they may have.

#### **4. Commission members’ reports, updates and suggestions for future agenda items**

Chair Palmer requested that before the next meeting, Commissioners consider strategies for addressing the work plan between now and the end of the year. He asked that discussion and possible action regarding the VAC work plan be agendized for the August meeting.

Vice-Chair Pulk requested that a discussion and possible action item be agendized for August regarding the possibility of the Veterans’ Advisory Commission making a statement condemning Councilman Guy Phillips’ comments and actions on June 24, 2020. She noted that she is respectfully aware that he is a sitting Councilmember; however, she strongly believes that his words and actions do not represent the views of the vast majority of citizens, the City government as a whole, or veterans in the community. Commissioner Ziomek opined that it is not the purview of the Commission to weigh in on political issues. Chair Palmer asked that the item be agendized for discussion. Mr. Corsette will obtain guidance on the topic and share it with Commissioners as soon as possible.

#### **5. Adjournment**

COMMISSIONER STEMPLI MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER ZIOMEK SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

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